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The Octofoil, August/September/October 1989

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N.J. 07087

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Annual Dues: \$5.00 per year - \$1.50
will be earmarked to pay for the Octofoil

Volume XLIV Number 4

Aug-Sept-Oct 1989

Taps Sounded

CALL OUT OUR NAMES
AS THE YEARS GO BY-
REMEMBER US-
AND WE WILL NEVER
DIE

With profound regret
and remorse we announce
the passing of these "Old
Reliables and friends."

John DeSepio
M Co 47th Inf
Gerald Wheelock
M Co 47th Inf
James Barr
D Co 60th Inf
Raymond Porter
E Co 39th Inf
Walter Smythe
60th Inf
Frank Campion
34th Fa
Marshall Waller
I Co 39th Inf
Herbert "Hap" Lastra
376th AA Btry D
Newell Cole
39th Inf Hq Co
Bernard Long
Div Hqs
Vincent D'Addona
9th Recon
Paul Lindquist
47th Inf
Cleveland Blankenship
"Shorty"

K Co 39th Inf
Charles Fox
34th Fa
Max Umansky
47th Inf Co K
John Huffman
F Co 39th Inf
James Jamoullis
M Co 47th Inf
Steve Tebich

Wesley Roach
C Co 9th Med Bn
Lawrence Lynch
Co H 47th Inf
Walter Wasserman
60th Inf
William Kreye
39th Inf
Herman Schmidt
47th Inf
Henry W. Nowak
2nd Bn 60th Inf
Fred Sargis
Div Arty Hq's Bty

May they rest in Peace.
To their families and loved
ones we extend our deepest
sympathy.

Worcester Memorial

The 45th Annual Memorial
Mass and Service held in
Worcester will be history by the
time our members receive this
issue of the Octofoil. The timing
for publications doesn't always
coincide with events of the
Association.

As we go to press (end of Oc-
tober) we are happy to report
that over 200 members are ex-
pected to attend the Memorial
Mass in Worcester. More
details will appear in the next
issue of the Octofoil, the
Nov.-Dec. issue.

COORDINATING COMMITTEE

The Board of Governors of
the 9th Infantry Division
Association at the Annual Con-
vention held in New York this
month approved a proposal to
develop a communication net-
work with the 9th Division Octo-
foil Association at Fort Lewis,
Washington.

The following members were
appointed to the 9th Division
Coordinating Committee.

Mike Kauffman - 4466
Abinadi Road, Salt Lake Ci-
ty, Utah 84124
Walter O'Keefe - 900 Bush
Street #805, San Francisco,
Cal. 94107
Norris Gray - 808 Thomas
Barbour Dr., Melbourne,
Florida 32935

In order to get a broad repre-
sentation from our Association,
the following people have
volunteered to serve on an Ad-
visory Board to our Committee.

Tom Billings - Minnesota
Larry McLaughlin - Massa-
chusetts
Charlie Libretto - New York
Bert Waller - California
Jack Collier - Missouri
John Miller - Texas

Our initial objectives are to:

1. Establish contact with the
Octofoil Association.
2. Exchange articles of in-
terest for each Association's
newspaper.
3. If requested, furnish
speakers and displays for each
other meetings.
4. Secure a list of coming
events at Fort Lewis.
5. Place all Board members
of each Association on the
others mailing list.

Any of the Coordinating Com-
mittee members will welcome
any suggestions you may have
so that the two Associations will
continue to perpetuate the
memory of our fallen compa-
nions, preserve the esprit d'
corps of the Division, and
preserve the history and
heritage of the Division.

Cordially,
M.B. KAUFFMAN
Committee Chairman
4466 Abinadi Rd.
Salt Lake City, UT 84124

Tip of the Hat

The Memorial Fund was
enriched by the generosity of
these members and friends.

Robert Bogert
Est. of Grace Elizabeth Lee
Richard McGrath (In memory
of the 4581 KIA)
John Slater (In memory of Lt.
Frank Campion 34th FA)
Charles Maraldo (In memory
of George Kansala, KIA)
Mrs. Millie Lastra (In memory
of her husband Hap, 376th Btry
D)

James Popeski
Leon Birum (In memory of
Americo 'Sgt. Rick' D'Oratio)
James T. Joyce
Mrs. Gene Cronin (In memory
of her husband, Eugene, M Co.
60th)

Eva & Henry Santos (In
memory of Max Umansky)
Fred Loblundo
Jan Josey & Son & Wife, Rick &
Pat (In memory of Fred Josey)
We salute you!

Headquarters for the 1990 Reunion



The Orlando Marriott Has It All October 4-7, 1990

Early Birds

The reservation forms picked
up at the PINES have already
accounted for over 100 rooms
and to reward the EARLY
BIRDS we will be giving away a
few valuable prizes starting
with A FREE TWO NITES
CERTIFICATE donated by the
hotel. Be one of the first 250 on
the list to win the lottery prizes.
If the early bird response is
good the next ??? will have a
prize as well.

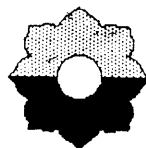
The only way we can house
our members where they will
be with or close to "buddies"
etc. is by handling reservations
before they reach the hotel, so
be sure to state your wishes of
locations or near someone,
write your check to 9th Inf. Div.
Asso. and get it in the mail.

The one possible draw-back
this hotel has is the main ban-
quet hall, it only seats 850 peo-
ple. A paid first night is the first
step to a seat. Dinner or strip
tickets must be paid in full by
September 1, 1990, those not
staying at the Marriott must
send a deposit of \$25.00 per per-
son by September 1, 1990.

Reserved Seating

All banquet seating will be
reserved, each person must
have a ticket which will be
handed out when you register to
enter the banquet hall. Tables
will be numbered and assigned
to each regiment, battalion,
Co., etc., those wanting to sit
together will appoint a "table
captain" who will collect ten
tickets per table and in turn
hand them to the banquet chair-
man for assignment. There will
be no need to line up, push,
shove etc. thus avoiding the
mass confusion, frustration,
temper flare-ups we have seen
a time or two. This is a nerve
stretching task and co-
operation of all is a must.

With our large attendance
each year, finding an afford-
able hotel that is not already
booked, to accommodate us is
no easy task so a little sacrifice
here and there is a small price
to pay for the wonderful ex-
perience of meeting our Bud-
dies ONE MORE TIME. "ITS
GETTING LATE"



Leaving the Chapel at West Point at conclusion of the Memorial
Services are l-r: Vince Guglielmino, Emil Langer, B' Gen Roy
K. Flint and Dan Quinn. General Flint was speaker at the Cere-
mony.

THE OCTOFOIL
Form 2579 should be sent to
412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087
Octofoil Associated Editors
Walter O'Keefe and Daniel Quinn

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Henry Santos
9811 N Connechusett Rd.
Tampa, FL 33617

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114 Charles Street
Floral Park, NY 11001

Fred D'Amore, 2nd V.P.
95 Webster St.
E. Boston, MA 02128

Pat DeColi, 3rd VP
1017 Jackson St.
Phila. PA 19148

Dave Heller
Judge Advocate
616 Sumac
Highland Pk. IL 60036

Thomas Boyle, Treasurer
39 Hall Avenue
Somerville, Mass. 02144

Daniel Quinn, Secretary
412 Gregory Avenue
Weehawken, NJ 07087

Board of Governors

1990
Ralph Carci
Brunswick, MD
Richard Marlin
Springfield, Mass.
Len Tomassone
Pennsauken, NJ
Edward Wisniewski
Richmond, Mich.
Adolph Wadalavage
Elmhurst, NY

1991
Nick Dogostino
Cherry Hill, NJ
Jack Collier
St. Louis, MO
Larry McLaughlin
Wakefield, MA
Henry Santos
Tampa, FL

1992
Mike Belmonte
Oak Park, IL
Phil Berman
Daytona Bch, FL
Ed Hopkins
Metuchen, NJ
Tom Hatton
Saginaw, MI
Walter O'Keefe
San Francisco, CA

The official publication of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Single copy price is 25 cents per issue by mail \$1.50 per year payable in advance when dues are paid. Dues are \$5 per year with \$1.50 of the \$5.00 earmarked for the issues of The Octofoil. Members should notify the National Secretary, Daniel Quinn, 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N.J. of any change of address.

Published five times yearly. May-June-July — Aug.-Sept.-Oct — Nov.-Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar-April by and for the members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. News items, feature stories, photographs and art material from members will be appreciated. Every effort will be made to return photographs and art work in good condition.

An extract from the certificate of incorporation of the 9th Infantry Division association reads: "This Association is formed by the officers and men of the 9th Infantry. Division in order to perpetuate the memory of our fallen comrades, to preserve the esprit de corps of the division, to assist in promoting an ever-lasting world peace exclusively of means of educational activities and to serve as an information bureau to former members of the 9th Infantry Division.

Copy must be received on or before the 15th of each month to guarantee publication on the 20th.

Second-Class Postage paid at Union City, NJ. 07087, and additional offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087.

Volume XLIV Number 4

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Publication No. 402820

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Dan Quinn, National Secretary, 9th Infantry Division Assn. 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, New Jersey 07087

Enclosed please find dues for:

Name Serial No.

Street Address.....

City..... Zone..... State.....

I was a member of:

Battery..... Company.....Regiment.....9th Div.....

I wish to sign up for the following:

Regular Member per year..... \$ 5.00☐
Donation Memorial Scholarship Fund.....☐
THREE-YEAR MEMBER.....\$13.00☐
Life Membership.....\$50.00☐
Ladies Auxiliary Member.....\$ 2.00☐
Decals......50¢ each
60th Hist.....\$ 2.50 (incl. post.)

Please credit the following chapter:

Philly-Delaware Valley ☐ Greater New York ☐
Illinois ☐ Washington, D.C. ☐
New England ☐ Michigan ☐
Florida ☐



Continental Airlines
has been designated as Official Carrier for the

Ninth Infantry Division Association
45th Annual Reunion
October 3-7, 1990
Orlando, Florida

CONTINENTAL AIRLINES will offer **5%** off of the lowest applicable fare at the time of booking or, at least **50%** off first class and **50%** off coach fares.

To qualify, reservations must be booked through our convention desk using the Easy Access Number listed.

After you have reserved your flights, you may purchase your tickets from your local Travel

Agency, any Continental/Eastern ticket office or airport ticket counter or we will mail them directly to you along with an invoice for payment.

Regardless of where you choose to pay for your tickets, call our Convention Desk now to reserve your flights.

For discount fares call—
1-800-468-7022
(In Continental U.S. & Canada)

Refer To Easy Access Number

EZ 10P7



New Jersey Chapter

Dan, when we were discussing the awarding of the TV sets to the Veterans Hospital in Florida, some ideas were running through my mind concerning possible uses for that former scholarship money. My recent prolonged stay at the East Orange Veterans Hospital impressed on me the severe shortage of nurses at that facility. Recent news articles on the subject made me more aware of this acute shortage of nurses. Where could we better direct our efforts than toward attempting to alleviate this shortage? Yes, this should be our government's responsibility, its sacred obligation to the men who gave so much for this country at times of great danger, and at other times when these same politicians TOLD us our country was in great danger. Now, at a time when the greatest number of veterans in our country's history are reaching an age where more and more are succumbing to the ravages of ill health, this government has seen fit to cut back its support of the VA health system. There are a number of ways that we can use these former scholarship funds toward furthering our support of Veterans health facilities.

My original idea was to start a scholarship program at one or more of the hospitals, with the scholarships going to deserving students. In return these students would commit to bring their skills to Veterans hospitals and/or clinics. On second thought, I realized that such a move would contribute very little to the enormous need. I am now thinking of earmarking some of these funds for a massive publicity campaign, directed at Members of Congress, other military associations, the various veterans organizations, other politicians. You name it. I offer this suggestion at this time so that our membership can mull it over between now and our next general meeting, look into the problem, and come up with some brilliant ideas as to how we can pursue our goal. It is truly a national shame that our government has to be prodded into action of this nature, but remember, we are the country, not just the politicians in Washington. We can't just elect them and then let them go ahead and run the country as best they see fit. We must constantly guide them and make them accountable to us, THE PEOPLE. Any ideas our members might have would be appreciated. Perhaps men could offer articles to be printed in *The Octofoil*, or they could write me with their ideas, so I could digest them and present them at the next Board of Governors meeting. Even ideas as to why such a course would not be a wise one for us to pursue would be welcome. I'd be looking for a consensus. We have many talented people in this organization, people who feel rather strongly about the injustices being inflicted on our most needy and deserving, our most vulnerable veterans. I'm sure that we could be a valuable voice in the cause of our veterans.

Well, I didn't mean to editorialize in this letter, but as I continued writing, this seed of an idea began to germinate, and I decided to include it in this epistle.

All the best,
Ed Hopkins
110 Hollywood Avenue
Metuchen, NJ 08840

Marriott Orlando Hotel

EVERYONE WINS!! By paying to the NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION.

The state of Florida is generous to non-profit organizations such as our's by extending to us a sales tax exempt status also applies to hotel/motel room rent etc., by registering your room(s) through us we are saving you nine % or, \$6.21 per night. This also is an enormous undertaking so you will be asked to pay for the remaining nights' room rent no later than September 1 to be sure all checks clear and complete the accounting involved. Anyone not paid up by September 1 will have to settle with the hotel and will have the tax as only our chapter check is TAX EXEMPT. Those settling with the hotel will be able to charge whatever room rent is still owned to their charge card but the room tax will be added to the bill.

Everyone will be asked to present a charge card or make other arrangements to pay for things like telephone, room service etc. and will enjoy EXPRESS CHECK-OUT, (no waiting to check-out).

Room Reservations

THIS IS A RESERVATION REQUEST AND MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY ONE (1) NIGHTS ROOM DEPOSIT. CANCELLATION MUST BE RECEIVED 72 HOURS PRIOR TO ARRIVAL TO RECEIVE REFUND OF DEPOSIT. ALL REQUESTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 9/4/90. AFTER SUCH DATE, THEY WILL BE ACCEPTED ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS.

9th Infantry Division

October 4 - 7, 1990

DAILY ROOM RATES Single: \$69. Double: \$69
SUITE FROM: \$_____

ARRIVAL DATE:_____ DEPARTURE DATE:_____

ARRIVAL TIME:_____ FLIGHT NO.:_____

NUMBER OF ROOMS:_____ NUMBER IN PARTY:_____

ADULTS_____ CHILDREN & AGES:_____

SPECIAL REQUEST:_____

NAME:_____

ADDRESS:_____

CITY:_____ STATE:_____ ZIP:_____

TELE #:_____

Name you want on name tag_____

Company_____ Regiment_____

CHILDREN STAYING IN THE SAME ROOM WITH THEIR PARENTS NO EXTRA CHARGE

ALL RATES ARE SUBJECT TO 9% STATE TAX

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN ROOM - FIVE (5)

RESERVATIONS ARE TENTATIVELY HELD PENDING

RECEIPT OF DEPOSIT OR MAJOR CREDIT CARD (AX,

M/C, VS, DC & DI)

NUMBER_____ EXPIRE DATE:_____

Special request for location, connecting room, etc., will be noted but cannot be guaranteed. Suites are space available at rates above and will be confirmed by RESERVATIONS MANAGER.

AFTER

CHECK IN: 4:00 P.M.

CHECK OUT: 11:00 A.M.

Baggage must be checked with the Bell Captain if departure time is later than 11:00 A.M.

For those who wish to arrive early and/or extend their stay, the above mentioned special group rates will apply to three nights before and/or after the dates indicated above-room subject to availability.

Make check and send payment to

9th Inf. Div. Reunion

9811 N Connechusett Rd.

Tampa, FL 33617

Charge card payment to

Orlando Marriott Hotel

8001 International Dr.

Orlando, FL 32819

Hospitality suites, \$210.00 a nite, more for entertaining, set with living/dining furniture, wet bar, pull out couch, no bed. Bringing in food and/or beverages from outside is restricted.

Junior suites - \$190.00 per nite, one bedroom & parlor, two bedrooms & parlor go for \$280.00. Parlors are set up living room style the size of a guest room. No restrictions on food/beverages.

Executive suites- \$375.00 per nite, smiliar to a one bedroom apartment. No food/beverage restrictions.

The reunion committee is taking advantage of the extra time we have this year to "fine tune" all aspects to make this a most memorable reunion. Watch the OCTOFOIL for the latest information.

Request for space in souvenir program			
Centerfold	\$125.00	Back cover	\$75.00
Inside front cover	60.00	Inside back cover	60.00
Full page	50.00	1/2 page	30.00
1/4th page	20.00	1/8th page	10.00

Booster name and unit \$2.00 each.

Make check payable to 9th Inf. Div. reunion and mail to

Fla. Chapter, 9th Inf. Div.

9811 N Connechusett Rd.

Tampa, FL 33617

Ph (813) 985 5444

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP
MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

(Act of October 23, 1962: Section 4369, Title 39, United States Code)

1. Date filed: 10/3/89 2. Title of Publication: THE OCTOFOIL.
3. 5 times yearly* 4. Location of known office of publication: 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. - Hudson County. 5. Location of headquarters or General Business Offices of the Publisher: 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N.J. - Hudson County. 6. Name and address of the Publisher and Editor: Daniel Quinn, 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J.
9. FOR COMPLETION BY NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AUTHORIZED TO MAIL AT SPECIAL RATES (Section 411.3 DMM only) The purpose function and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for Federal income tax purposes (check one)

x (1) HAS NOT CHANGED DURING PRECEDING 12 MONTHS

10. EXTENT AND NATURE OF CIRCULATION

AVERAGE NO. COPIES EACH ISSUE DURING PRECEDING 12 MONTHS	ACTUAL NO. COPIES OF SINGLE ISSUE PUBLISHED NEAREST TO FILING DATE
2350	2350

A. Total No. Copies (Net Press Run)

B. Paid Circulation		
1. Sales through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors and Counter Sales	None	None
2. Mail Subscriptions	2200	2200

C. Total Paid Circulation (Sum of 10B1 and 10B2)

D. Free Distribution By Mail, Carrier or other means Samples, Complimentary, and other free copies

E. Total Distribution (Sum of C and D)

F. Copies Not Distributed 1. Office use, left over, Unaccounted, spoiled after printing

2. Return from news agents

G. TOTAL (Sum of E, F1 and 2-should equal net press run shown in A)

11. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

Daniel Quinn

WWII Bronze Stars - G. I. Insurance Hoax

Since 1947, the U.S. Army has had a retroactive provision for awarding Bronze Stars (for meritorious service) to only WWII holders of either the Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) or the Combat Medical Badge who served between Dec. 7, 1941 and Feb. 3, 1944.

Because the medal was not authorized until February 4, 1944, many WWII soldiers who served prior to that date were not considered for the award. The 1947 special policy was an attempt to retroactively recognize combat infantrymen and combat medics.

Since all soldiers have been eligible — based on an individual's valor, outstanding performance of duty or for some unique achievement — for the Bronze Star since early 1944, the policy is applicable only to those who served with the infantry prior to February of that year.

All advertisements concerning applied-for GI insurance dividends are a hoax, says the VA.

The only special insurance dividend has already been paid out to virtually all eligible life insurance policy holders, and no new special dividend has ever been created.

In 1970, Congress passed legislation effectively prohibiting payment of any special dividend declared prior to 1952 unless they had been applied for before 1954.

In 1989, the Department of Veterans Affairs will pay out more than \$1 billion to some 3.2 million veterans who kept their GI life insurance in force after they left the service. Dividends are received automatically on the anniversary date of the individual policy holder.

VA insurance information is available by calling toll-free 1-800-422-8079, from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., EST.



Red Phillips sends us this picture taken at reunion showing l-r: Red Phillips, Joe Kearns and John DeSepio all of Company M 47th Inf. They had Guidon banners made of their company and displayed them at the dining room area. This was to be DeSepio's last reunion as he passed away shortly after the reunion.

ILLINOIS CHAPTER
NEWSLETTER

Just returned from our Mini Outstate Reunion with the Michigan Chapter and our fellow Midwesterners. We had a good turnout, 71 people. We were pleased to see Larry and Kay Ghare from Tulsa, Okla. and John and Helen Clouser from Michigan/Florida and many members from Wisconsin, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Missouri. Our first timers were Bill and Esther Johnston from Wisconsin/-Florida. We missed a lot of the Michigan members who normally attend.

It was a pleasant reunion with substantial amounts of food, liquid refreshments and conversations. The past was relived over and over again and many picture albums helped recall some events and places. Saturday morning seven of the men took off for golf at a nearby course. Ideal fall weather, but only two of the seven broke 100. A nearby Outlet Center provided the ladies and some of the gents with many hours of shopping pleasures.

Bidding for 1991 Reunion Site

The Illinois Chapter is very much interested in hosting the 1991 Reunion. Committees have been formed and resort areas are being considered. The chapter expects to submit a bid for the site at the Board meeting in November in Worcester.

David Heller was the MC and after dinner he recognized all the past Presidents and Board Members of the Association, the three wives of our departed members. Irma Koski (Il.), Lucille Andrews (Mich.), and Only Rieschel (Pa.), and also Matt Urban who was present for dinner. The Illinois and Michigan Chapters conducted raffles. Illinois had a macramed lawn chair made by Wanda Preston, won by a Michigan member, a clock and various other prizes. Michigan had a clock, liquor and other prizes. The food was excellent this year and a good time was had by all.

Spring Mini Reunion

Meetings were held Saturday afternoon for both chapters. Discussions were held about the Madison, Wisconsin Mini Reunion to be held the first weekend in May, 1990 at the Ramada Inn. The room rates are going to be \$40.00 per night. Reservations to be made directly with the Hotel, mentioning the 9th Infantry Division. Mike Carpenter will again be in charge.

Plans for the Christmas Party were discussed. It will be held at the Belmonte's on December 9th. Detailed letters will be sent out by our efficient Secretary, Gordon Anderson.

Next year's Mini Out-of-State between Michigan and Illinois will be held on August 24th due to the fact that the National Reunion is in October next year. We will be at the Holiday Inn again and Michigan will host the weekend.

It is also with sorrow that we announce the loss of one of our Illinois members, John (Jack) Huffman. John passed away on Monday, August 14, 1989. Our deepest sympathy to John's wife and family.

At this time we would like to wish all the members of the 9th and their families a Happy Thanksgiving and a Happy and Prosperous Holiday Season.

Mike and Ann Belmonte
1161 South Lombard
Oak Park, IL 60304

A loser is someone who tries spirit channeling and gets the public access channel.

TO "B" (47th)
OR NOT TO "BE"

Greetings once again from the Keystone State, PA! This is a beautiful time of the year to really see Pennsylvania in all its splendor — it is the beauty of the fall foliage that is really breathtaking when driving over the mountains North and Westward. We have traveled many, many miles across our beautiful country, but; nowhere is nature pictured in all its splendor as it is seen in a giant panorama of Pennsylvania's Fall Foliage. We firmly believe that there is no state in our nation that can put on such a spectacle in the month of October as we are privileged to see in Pennsylvania.

Mail Call: We received congratulations from our "B" Co. Buddy Bill Klauz on a job well-done at our reunion in the Catskills, and were sorry he was unable to attend our last reunion. Bill says that he will be at future meetings of our New York Chapter; and extends best wishes to all of us to remain in good health.

We received a thank you card from Stan and Flo Adowski. Flo is feeling very well now. Flo injured her back in a fall coming down the steps from her Pines apartment. Flo said "Everything turned out fine — no aches or pains anymore." We are pleased to hear that the "Pines" Resort took care of the bills that Flo's insurance did not cover. We are happy to report also that Stan's surgery on his knee (Sept. 7th) went well and the operation was a success.

We received a card and a letter from Louis and Julia Netta — friends of our "B" Co. group. Louis was in the 60th Inf. Julia has had a most trying time since leaving the Catskills after our reunion. Julia has had a heart operation. A St. Jade Aorta Valve together with a one bypass was performed on her. Despite their troubles and tribulation, Louis and Julia have made reservations to attend the 9th Inf. Division Memorial Mass and Services, November 4th and 5th in Worcester, Mass. By the time we "BECO" buddies receive the next issue of the Octofoil we will have once again attended the Annual Memorial Mass from our deceased members of the 9th Inf. Division.

Our "B" Co. column was read most avidly by one "Red" Phillips "M" Co. 47th Infantry. The reason for this comment was that we have received a challenge from "Red" Phillips: He has conceded that our "B" Co. group was larger in attendance than his "M" Co. group was for our reunion at the Pines Resort in the Catskills. "Red" tells us that will change when we meet again at the 9th Infantry Division 1990 Reunion which will be held at the Orlando Marriott, October 4-7th 1990, in Orlando, Florida. So Buddies get your groups together and let's show "Red" Phillips that we "B" Company 47th is the Champ and will always be the Champions!! Details regarding our reunion in Orlando will be upcoming in the Octofoil to all our "B" Co. Buddies, and their families and friends, keep well and have a great "Fall Season." Enjoy Yourselves to the fullest each day!!

Pat J. Morano
2208 Lincoln Way East
Chambersburg, PA 17201
PH 717-352-3650
Art J. Stenzel
8705 Village Mill Row
Hudson, Florida 33567
PH 813-862-6716

Big Apple Reports

As we were going to press it was discovered that the Newsletter by Marv Levy for the New York Chapter had been misplaced. It had arrived weeks ago and somehow "got lost." Sorry Marv. In any event the New Yorkers have had a busy season with the reunion in the Pines and what have you, but plans are still in the making with a Christmas party in December at the Weehawken Elks Club in New Jersey (50th Street and Boulevard East) overlooking New York City. December 10th is the date — a Sunday — 2 to 6 p.m., with plenty of food and refreshments and for those who are still up to it music for your dancing pleasure.

On the third Friday of each month (except during July & Aug.) the members meet at 71 West 23rd St., NYC. This is a Masonic Building well kept and in a good location. The building can be entered from both 23rd and 24th Streets, ample parking in the neighborhood with a paid parking lot alongside of the building. So come on you Big Apples make it a date to spend an evening with your buddies.

A good contingent of New Yorkers will be on hand for the 45th Memorial Mass and Service being held in Worcester on November 4 and 5.

Once again we apologize to Marv Levy for misplacing his article.

New York Secretaries
Address
Art Schmidt
69-20 69th St.
Glendale, NY 11385-6696

Michigan News Notes

The Out State meeting, hosted this year by the Illinois Chapter, was a huge success. Though Jennie and I were not in attendance Elmer Wagner brought back a full report.

All of course is not all fun. The Michigan Chapter spent time in a business meeting and held the annual election of officers. The following were elected and will be installed at the December meeting. President: Bob DeSandy; 1st Vice President: Vince Walker; 2nd Vice President: Ed Wisniewski. Floyd Hennessey was elected to be chaplain. The following incumbents were returned to office. Rodger E. Alsgaard Secretary, Elmer Wagner Treasurer, Don Lewis Adjutant and Billie Hartin Historian.

The December meeting will be held at The Gallery in Port Huron, MI on December 9th with Leonard DeBell and Ed Wisniewski hosting the party.

Rodger E. Alsgaard, Sec'y
Michigan Chapter
2834 Wynes St.
Saginaw, MI 48602

ATTENTION
15th ENGINEERS

I have mentioned to a few engineers that it would be nice if we could have our own "C.P." room and the replies were for it.

A "Junior Suite" seems the best deal but someone would have to occupy the bedroom which would make the cost of the hospitality room \$121.00 per day. Assuming twenty five of us the room will cost us \$4.84 per day plus whatever we want to bring in. There are only eleven junior suites so we should make up our minds rather soon.

Please drop me a line and let me know your feelings on this.

Henry Santos
9811 N Connechuset Rd.
Tampa, FL 33617

FLORIDA CHAPTER MEMBERS MEET IN JACKSONVILLE

The 1989 Fall meeting of the Florida Chapter was held on October 6, 7, & 8 at the Jacksonville Hotel located on the Riverwalk of the St. Johns River.

Joe Williams was the coordinator and planner of this enjoyable weekend. Jim Scotta, Henry Santos and a few others arrived on Thursday a day earlier. Max Umansky, who usually arrives with Jim Scotta, was hospitalized. The main body of members arrived on Friday. Joe Williams with the aid of his lovely wife, Dottie, had a well planned program ready. The Georgia Room was the site of the Hospitality Room. It was also used as the Auxilliary Meeting Room. As usual, Henry Santos helped with the goodies and the drinks which were plentiful. Friday night saw 47 attendees take in a Dinner/Show at the Alhambra Dinner Theatre where everyone enjoyed a good dinner followed by viewing the stage play "Best Little Whorehouse in Texas."

Those that did not attend the Dinner/Show had a choice of several other activities that were being held that weekend. Located just outside the rear of the hotel and facing the St. Johns River was the RIVERWALK... similar to the boardwalk at Coney Island, Atlantic City or other seashore areas. A Seafood Festival was held on the RIVERWALK side. Clam chowder, shrimp, lobsters and all kinds of fish food could be purchased at the many small stands that were set up on both sides in sort of a carnival atmosphere. Among all the fish stands was one wagon vendor selling Italian sausages and hot dogs for those meat lovers. For \$1.50 per person, one could take a "water taxi" across the St. Johns River where "ARTS MANIA '89" was being sponsored by the Arts Assembly of Jacksonville. This festival ran from Friday to Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. The mall known as "The Landings" featured a variety of shops, fast food, fine restaurants, ice cream, etc. Live entertainment was provided on an outdoor stage...free admission.

On Saturday, the men's business meeting was held at 10:00 a.m. in the St. Johns Room. A moment of silence and a prayer was led by Chaplain Art Schneider in memory of the 4,581 killed in action and those who passed on since the end of hostilities. The main topic of discussion was the 1990 Annual Reunion which the Florida Chapter will host. Chairman Joe Williams presented colored diagrams of the Marriott Hotel grounds then proceeded to appoint committee heads for the different functions necessary to run such an affair.

Bob Pappas will chair the Registration and Golf Tournament. Arnold Tomanek will look into the dance and entertainment. Jim Scotta will head the seating at the table arrangement. The Women's Auxilliary will do the decorating and plan the Ladies activity program. Larry Gagnon to head the Memorial Services activities. Other committee heads will be appointed by Joe Williams within the coming months. Henry Santos will send complete information to the OCTOFOIL which will be printed in future issues. Henry is also accepting reservations on a first come first serve basis for the 850 seating capacity at the Saturday Night banquet.

For a color brochure and other information, contact either Emil J. De Donato, 3650 S.W. Mosswood St., Dunnellon, FL 32630, phone: 904/489-4070 or Henry Santos, 9811 N. Connechuset Rd., Tampa, FL 33617, phone: 813/985-5444.

The Women's Auxilliary had a very short meeting, then attended the "Southern Women's Show" held at the Prime Osborne Convention Center that featured exhibits ranging from the "Sleigh Bell Christmas and Holiday Shop" plus a fashion show featuring clothes worn in many Hollywood films. Saturday afternoon hours were free time. Some members attended the outdoor activities while others stayed in the Hospitality Room or watched the baseball game. John O'Grady together with his wife, attended the Florida Chapter meeting for the first time.

A Luau was held in the Deck Room near the pool at 7 p.m. Saturday. A roasted piglet with all the trimmings was prepared especially for this group. For those who wanted a choice, the hotel chefs prepared an assortment of marinated fish.

At the end of the dinner, Henry Santos held a few drawings of prizes. Larry Miller won the 50/50 drawing while Bill Carson and Fred Herrin won 2 free nights' lodging at the Jacksonville Hotel.

The finale of this October Fall Meeting was spent in the Hospitality Room where the remaining goodies and drinks were consumed. Lotti Schacor led a group in singing old time favorite songs while Tony Manzollila circled around telling new jokes he had picked up since the last Spring Meeting.

Yes, the Florida Chapter semi-annual meetings are both serious business and lots of fun. Emil Langer, member of the New York Chapter also past President of the National Organization was a welcomed guest. He attended the last two meetings in Florida. The Florida Chapter cordially invites Emil Langer to attend any future meeting. For those members who belong to other Chapters or to the National Organization and just receive the OCTOFOIL, a cordial invitation is extended to you to attend our next meeting in the Spring of 1990. Look for dates and places in future issues of our newspaper or contact me, Emil J. De Donato. The fee is the same.

Emil J. De Donato,
Sec., Fl. Chapt.
9th Inf. Div. Assn.
2650 S.W. Mosswood St.
Dunnellon, FL 32630
904/489-4070

Co. E 47th Inf.
ROBERT F. COLFLESH
P.O. Box 157
Westline, PA 15751

I sure enjoyed the reunion at the "Pines" the trip to West Point was great. Lets have more E Co. 47th show up next year in Orlando. All the Best.

He always wanted to be a comic, but he was afraid that people would laugh at him.

BOOKS FOR SALE

Eight Stars To Victory- hardback	\$36.50
Eight Stars to Victory- hardback pages 366 & 367 reversed - have 20 of these-	
47th Inf. history -hardback	\$22.50
"Hold Fast" Booklet-56 pages	\$23.50
9th Inf. Division 1918-1968 -44 pages	\$ 4.50
"The Final Thrust" Sept. 1944 to May 1945 75 pages	\$ 3.00
47th Inf. Commemorative Coins - each	\$ 5.50
Tax & Postage included in above prices.	\$ 2.50
Joe Williams	
1900 Hollyoaks Lk. Rd. E.	
Jacksonville, FL 32225	
904-641-9751	

SICK CALL

Reporting for Sick Call and marked "In Quarters" are the following members:

Co. F 60th Inf.
Art MacDougall
5051 Homestead St.
Philadelphia, PA 19135

Co. H 47th Inf.
Al Orletti
2532 Bronxwood
Bronx, NY 10469

A-T 47th Inf.
Henry Cassata
Rd. 1 Box 521
Mt. Upton, NY 13809

26th FA and 39th Inf.
Bill Lewis
54 Hopewell Dr.
Struthers, Ohio 44471

60th Inf.
Elias Hopkins
30 Lewis St.
Feastville, PA 19047

Ralph Elkins,
PO Box 324
Allen, KY 41601

James Chaplin
322 E. 9th St.
Belle, WV 25015

Once again we like to remind our members to remember our comrades who have been placed on Sick Call. A little note or card would go along way to boost their morale and spirits.

I would like to inform you that Eddie Sypniewski's widow is very sick and would like the guys and gals from the medics and friends that know her, please send cards to: Mrs. Ed Sypniewski, PO Box 6529, Ocala, FL 32678. Liz and I will try and visit with her.

Pete Radichio
B Co. 9th Med.
3889 S. Springbreeze Way
Homosassa, FL 32646

60th Infantry A.T. Co.
WALTER E. SMYTHE
Mrs. Emma Smythe
R 1 Box 183
Hillsdale, New York 12529

Walter Smythe after suffering with throat and bone cancer passed away on August 10, 1989. Walter took part in the African European Theater and the Normandy Rhineland Campaign. He is survived by his wife Emma and son Sgt. 1st Class Walter G. Smythe. Walter looked forward to receiving The Octofoil and often thought and spoke about his friends from the 9th Infantry Division. He will be greatly missed by his friends who anxiously came to listen intently as Walter reminisced about events of the war.

60th Inf.
JOHN COMPEL
2020 Barnsdale
McKeesport, Pa. 15132

Enclosed are my dues for the next 3 years.

Certainly had a good time at the convention this year. Hope to go to the one in Orlando next October.

Appreciation

Mrs. Charles B. Fox
14 Edison Street
Bayville, New Jersey 08721
Dear Members of the 9th Inf. Div.

It is with sadness that I inform you of the death of my husband Charles B. Fox (Sr.) on Oct. 5, 1989.

These last few years he had a few operations and had been a diabetic for many years.

The pride he felt and respect he had for his fellow comrades was evident by his attending the many reunions at Worcester for years, and his fond memories of the 34th F.A. and 9th Division he served in headquarters.

Thank you so very much for cooperating with the funeral director at the time of my husband Charles B. Fox death by having a representative of the 9th pay respects to him. The plaque he received a short time ago was well displayed with the American flag.

Mr. and Mrs. William Canary of Whiting, N.J. represented the 9th.

We are great friends of the late Bill O'Shea and Louise.

39th Inf. K Co.
MRS. CLEVELAND
BLANKENSHIP
2715 Dorset Rd.
Richmond, Va. 23234

It is with a very sad heart that I write this letter. I would like for you to see that the notice of Cleveland (Shorty) Blankenship's passing gets in the next issue of The Octofoil for me. He passed away Sept. 21, 1989 and his funeral was on the 25th. He corresponded with so many of the fellows in his division, it will be impossible for me to get a letter off to each of them at this time.

He died from complications of his Leukemia. This is the worst thing that has ever happened to me in my life. Cleveland was the dearest person in the world to me and my life will never be the same.

39th Inf. Co. I
MARSHALL WALLER
605 Spence Dr.
Kinston, N.C. 28501

It is with great sadness that I report the death of my husband of 51 years, Marshall G. Waller. He passed away on July 2, 1989 after a long battle with cancer.

Marshall enjoyed the Octofoil very much, and since his dues are paid, I would like to continue receiving it. Marshall talked to me a lot about the war. Sometimes, I feel as if I went through it with him. Just before he died, Marshall was able to talk to Trent Palmer because of the Octofoil.

Also, right before Marshall became bedridden, some of his buddies came to see him. They were Charles Holsapple of Washington, IN; Paul Calahan of Dallas, PA; and Elbert De Witt of Galesburg, Ill. Their wives came with them and also Charles' daughter and her family were here. Their visit really meant a lot to Marshall. We miss him, but we know Jesus took him to a better place.

God Bless You.

39th INF Hq. Co.
N.C. COLE
Space 63
1850 W. Orangethorpe
Fullerton, CA 92633

"Taps" were played for Newell Cole August 2nd 1989. He was in the 39 Inf. Headquarters Co. 3rd Battalion.

We were on our way home when he just went to sleep during the afternoon drive. I got him into a hospital at Cloquet, Minn. where he went peacefully.

Winona Cole

TAPS

Just a short note to say that having spent a memorable few days in the company of Joe and Dottie Williams as guests at their home in conjunction with the Florida Chapter fall meeting which was very, very, successful, we returned home Sunday afternoon and the phone was ringing off the hook. George Nicklan called to pass on the news that one of our most faithful and dependable members MAX UMANSKY had gone to his final reward. I can't say that I was surprised as I had been checking on Max for several weeks. The news saddened both Eva and me.

Monday being Yom Kippur gave us a chance for a quick change of plans which enabled us to attend graveside services at the Star of David cemetery in Ft. Lauderdale on Tuesday. We had to leave 6:30 AM to get there in time for the 1:45 PM services. On the way we stopped at Fort Worth to have a quick lunch with Art and Vera Schneider who led the way for the next 30 or so miles. As we sat in the chapel to pay our last respects, Marty Shankman and friend Fanny came in so Max had a few army friends along with a small group of family and friends.

I never knew Max till we formed the Florida chapter a little over eight years ago but it seemed I'd known him from Ft. Bragg, that's what chapter meetings do for us, gives us a chance to "meet the rest of the family". Prior to the services I was asked by the Rabbi to say a few words but really black clouds were soon rolling in and a shorter service was mandated, but Rabbi Swartz mentioned us, who we were, etc. and cut short the service.

The enclosed check to the memorial fund is in Max's memory from Eva and me. May God rest his soul in peace.

15th Engrs. Co. A
HENRY SANTOS
9811 N. Connechuset
Tampa, FL 33617

MR. ALFRED WINSTON
101 Berkley Rd. #211
Hollywood, FL 33024

Will you please thank the men of the 9th Div. who were kind enough to express their sympathy to us at the loss of Max, my dear brother. It is much appreciated.

Co. M 47th
JOHN B. KNIGHT
52 Woodview Rd.
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18702

I attended the funeral of Lawrence "Chappy" Lynch. He started with Company H 47th during the Tunisian Campaign and lasted till VE Day. Wounded during the Battle of the Bulge he returned to his company. I saw to it that the Octofoil given me at the last reunion adorned his casket at the Funeral Home. He was proud of the Ninth and I conveyed this message to his two sons.

376th Battery "D" AA.
HERBERT "HAP" LASTRA
20336 Nebula Lane
Temecula, CA 92390

Please include Herb's name in the Octofoil under "taps sounded".

"Hap" as friends and buddies called him died July 30, 1989 of cancer.

As an ardent reader and has many times written in the Octofoil, I am enclosing a check to the Memorial Fund in the memory of my husband Herb "Hap" Lastra.

34th FA
LEON R. BIRUM
RR 1 Box 59
Union City, IN 47390

I have been intending to write to the Octofoil, but as writing goes I kept putting it off. Today when I received the new identification sign to be displayed at a members funeral service this lit the fuse.

Who ever originated this idea should be congratulated. I think it's great. I for one, and I'm sure I'm no different than any other member of the association never hesitate to let people know I am or was in the 9th Inf. Division. I have the insignia painted on the end of my barn, at one time had it painted on rear of travel trailer. I very seldom leave the house, if I wear a cap that the insignia is on cap either in form of lapel button or one purchased with insignia sewn on it.

At the local county fair just recently, at a stand that sold all kinds of buttons, I found two with 9th Division insignia, so I purchased them and sent one to Stanley Szerwint in Chicago.

I still correspond by writing or telephone with Seribac former 34th FA. members at the present time a few of us are in the process of exchanging books about WWII. Books after they are read, just set on shelves and gather dust. We're trying to get the dust off them.

I keep looking for letters from the 34th, but usually am disappointed. The fifteenth anniversary of the beginning of WWII has caused a lot of TV commentaries and a lot to be written about the greatest war ever to be fought. Some of the material concerns events that was never before published, sure brings back a lot of memories.

Talked to Szerwint two days ago. He had met a former 9th Division member at the VA hospital in Chicago, that had never talked to any one from the Div. since 1945. He was from the 39th Inf. "G" Company. When he heard about the "Eight stars to Victory," he wanted one, I remembered seeing in one of the issues of Octofoil that Joe Williams, in Florida had reprinted the book. I found that issue and called Stanley back and gave him Joe's address.

My wife and I intend to be at the Memorial Mass in November, a new hip joint and a new knee joint will not keep me away.

Again, I must say I was thrilled to get "Deceased" Insignia and hope my family doesn't have to use it for a few years. thanks "Buck."

39th Inf G Co.
JIM LEMMA
1213 E. Windemere
Royal Oak, Mi. 48073

Enclosed find dues for the next 3 years. I hope I am here to send dues for the 3 years after that. I could never tell you how much I enjoy the Octofoil.

Keep up the good work, and hope you are still doing it for another 30 yrs.

All the Best,

47th Inf
VIRGIL DINGMAN
6 Clark Ave.
Fort Plain, N.Y. 13339

A few months ago I received a plaque for membership to the 9th which was a great surprise to me. Thanks a lot. I am proud of the 9th. I am no longer able to take long trips. they say "old soldiers never die, they just fade away." I'm fading a little at a time.

Florida in 1990

15th Engrs Co. B.
TONY MADONNA
40 Orient St.
Worcester, MA 01604

Many praises to the New York Chapter and The Pines Hotel. The 44th Reunion was a great success. The table arrangements were the best ever and the attendance was near record. While at dinner one night a group of 15th Engineers were discussing Father Connors and the Memorial Mass and how it came about. I will to the best of my memory tell the story of the first Memorial Mass.

Being a resident of Worcester I received an invitation to dinner at one of Worcester's finest restaurant. When I got there I met with other 9th Division men that also live in Worcester or within a short distance. I could not remember how many were there, but after talking to George Bundza and Francis Maher we came to a figure of about 12 men. Father Connors was discharged from the Army as a captain, one of his rare promotions and invited this group to a steak dinner. After dinner he explained to us why he got us together. He was thinking of a Memorial Mass and pray for the 4,581 men that did not make it back. We all agreed that it was a fine idea. As he was assigned to St. Peter's Church in Worcester the Mass would take place there. The date would be on the Sunday nearest to Armistice Day, which was November 11. How this small group managed to get names and addresses of the many that attended the first Mass was quite a feat. As we were from different outfits in the Division, we each had names of buddies in our Battalion. I had A Company Roster of B Co. 15th Engineers and many engineers were originally from New England. Likewise the other men from other companies had names and addresses of their buddies. So those that heard about the Mass told other and so on went the chain. The First Mass 1945 and now Nov. 5 - the 45th.

60th Inf. F. Co.
JOHN W. MILLER
1511 Cochise Dr.
Arlington, TX 76012

John W. Miller, retired U.S. Army lieutenant colonel, was awarded a Prisoner of War Medal by the former chief of chaplains of the U.S. Air Force Robert Preston Taylor during a recent meeting of the Arlington Great Southwest Rotary Club.

Miller received the award in recognition of his five and one-half months of incarceration as a prisoner of war in Germany during World War II. He was captured by the Germans during the Battle of the Bulge.

Miller was a member of the 2nd Battalion of the 60th Infantry and served in six frontline campaigns during World War II. He was decorated 16 times, including seven awards for bravery. After the atomic bomb was dropped, Miller volunteered to enter the blast area to help scientists determine the effects of the bomb on humans.

Miller retired in 1967 and worked as administrative manager of Nationwide Papers in Arlington. He is a member of the Great Southwest Rotary Club, the National Association of POW's, the National Association of Radiation Survivors, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and 9th Inf. Div. Association.

Her doctor said, 'Urinate here'. Poor girl, she always thought of herself as a 9 or a 10.

9th Signal

Mini Reunion

It is once again my pleasure to report that the Ninth Signal Company held it's second annual reunion at the Genetti Motor Lodge, Hazelton, Pa. on Sept. 8th & 9th, 1989. The Reunion committee of Bill & Evelyn Miller, Chuck & Betty Hodges and Ray & Dolores Connolly were more than pleased with this years turn-out. Special Thanks should go to the Millers and the Hodges for their Leadership and untiring effort to make this reunion, again, a great success.

A very beautiful "Afghan" was knitted by the wife of Stan Sailors (Radio) and was raffled off to help defray some of our expenses, so many thanks, Aleen. The ladies who attended, some 14 in all, held a "White Elephant" sale, which also added to the operating fund. These lovely people deserve a very BIG THANK YOU. The fellows also had a raffle of their own, this time a Leaded "Octofoil," which was won by Bruce Fraczek (Message Center). We especially want to thank the Hodges, Betty & Chuck, for all the many gifts that they obtained in order that each person who attended received a gift. The Millers, Bill & Evelyn, showed a special tape from the State of Delaware in regards our National Standard, plus a classic recording of "Red" Skelton and his version of the "Pledge of Allegiance." Due to some important previous commitments, C.C. Smith, as well as Helen & Pat McGoldrick could not make the reunion this year. The Saturday night banquet was opened with a prayer for our Very Honored Dead, and then a short address by John A. Quigley, the Mayor of Hazelton who welcomed us and appreciated the fact that we returned to his very friendly community. Well, as all good things must come to an end, this Saturday night was no exception, so the sad but inevitable Good-byes came to pass. The following is a list who attended:

Carl & Rose Wood
Bill & Ann Shaner
Stan & Aleen Sailors
Harold & Florence Stafford
Ed & Lena Wargo
Joe & Erla Brobst
Tom Carocci
Jack C. Brown
Wally & Sara Andersen
Bruce & Mae Fraczek
Dick & Mary Craig
Elten & Pearl Petersen
Ed & Arlene Maltzan
Wellesley Shaw
Bill Mumau
Len Ormarder

So, to all the Ninth Signal Men, wherever you may be, you were, and are remembered in our prayers. Till next time may our Heavenly Father watch over us, protect us and bless us, each and every one.

Ray Connolly
11 Dunstable Rd.
Vincentown, NJ 08088

26th F.A. C Btry
WILLIAM A. LEWIS
54 Hopewell Drive
Struthers, OH 44471

I'm still in Ron Joy Nursing Home and hoping to hear from you. I look for the mail every day. I'm trying to get better. My wife still comes every day. She is always there when I want or need her. I want to go home but can't walk yet. Going on five years we are apart. Too long but thank God I have her. Thank God for what you have boys and love your families. Take care of yourselves. Love and Blessings.



One of the bus loads that toured West Point as they gathered for a picture. This group was comprised mostly of B Co 47th Inf.



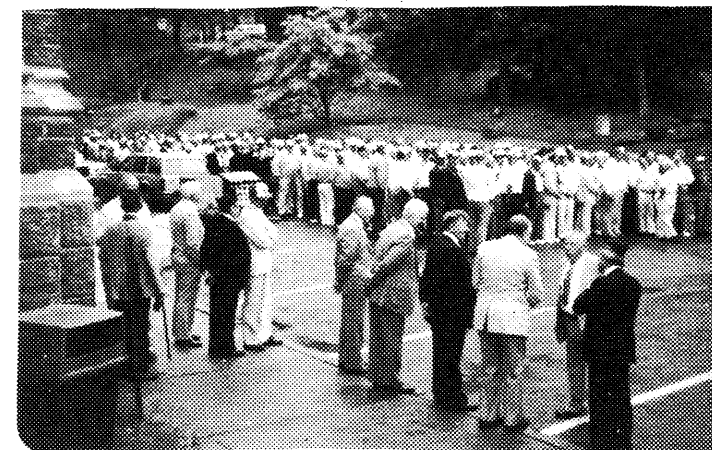
The Illinois Chapter members gathered for a photo at the Reunion in the Catskills. Top Row: G. Anderson, H. Gaertner, B. May, J. Collier, T. Curless, C. Daniels, C. Combs, G. Helm and T. Kremka. 2nd row: W. Hennemuth, W. Freund, T. Preston, M. Belmonte, M. Jaggi and D. Heller. Bottom row: P. Clark, L. Gray, L. Morgan and M. Carpenter. K. Grimm was not present when photo was taken.



Company M 47th was in top contention for the most attendees at the reunion and they are shown as they got together for a photo at the Pines Hotel. Standing l-r: Falgiano, DeSepio, Phillips, Knight, Kothe, Knee, Horan, Little (obstructed) Kscenaitis, Kearns, Kneeling: Rosenfield, Fatlan, Willis, Creighton, Kitchen, King, Kowalezyk.



G Company 39th Inf was well represented at the Reunion in the Catskills l-r: Bill Aarro, Anton Dietrich, Bob Smith, Duane Blumber, Bill Canary, Ed Draonschak and John Fasel. Guidon shown is the original one from G Company.



Troops gathered at West Point before Memorial Services. The Board members are shown facing the troops. Left to right Two unidentified members - Larry McLaughlin, Fred D'Amore, Dick Martin, Floyd Hennessey, Jack Collier, Ed Wisniewski, Acting Chaplain Ralph Witzken, Vince Guglielmino and Dave Heller.

Deadline for Next Issue
-Dec. 20th
Nostalgia: the ability to recall the past fondly, despite the facts.

Down the Road of History

While 1988 was one of the worst years since WWII for the Rucker family, there were some good days scattered through... thank God there were more up days than down days! One of these was a trip to Seattle for the annual meeting of the American Society of Landscape Architects. So, I decided to avail myself of the opportunity to visit the Ninth Infantry in Ft. Lewis, Washington. As you know, there is a standing invitation for any member of the WWII outfit to visit anytime they are in the area. Everyone of the association (Us'uns) should do this... They make you feel like somebody, come!

As I drove onto the post my heart skipped a beat or two, as it always does when I see the OCTOFOIL... it was on many facilities and was very much in evidence. I was met by two wonderful young captains of the Battalion Staff and taken to the guest house and settled in; then on to headquarters when I was given an orientation audio/visual session on the organization, armament, mission and Goal of Achievement for today's division. As I inspected the equipment which included the HWMWV (all computer controlled) and the new 5-ton truck (somebody finally got smart, all vehicles are basically the same with interchangeable parts) only the bodies are different depending on their function for battle. I detected the same old fighting spirit of the WWII Division. The young men are the finest that America has and they are very sophisticated and knowledgeable as to modern warfare. I was so proud and I know that all of you would be also. But to boggle my mind... the types of weapons... the TOW missile system and the SAW machine guns... one sight for the TOW vehicle inventories at \$50,000.00... one missile costs \$20,000!... I was advised that they actually got very little actual firing experience! And, I used to worry at Bragg when I discovered that a kitchen range for the field was missing! One young company commander was just turning his command over and he advised me that the armament inventory for his company was \$4.3 million!... tell me they are not ready... My old gray matter just kept reeling as I tried to comprehend all that I saw and did while there.

I was invited to go on "maneuver" and of course I would not have missed this opportunity. With a lot of grunting and groaning and some help, Oscar and I got into the TOW vehicle and were driven out to the site of the field exercises. Oscar is rather inflexible when it comes to bending or getting into tight places. (For those of you who are not on first name basis with Oscar, he is my artificial leg and I have just broken in "Oscar the 23rd.") Someday, perhaps I can tell you how he got the name and add a few more tid bits about the guy - he has only "let me down" on one occasion!

The ride to the field was enjoyable and I had time to adjust the seat and make a more detailed inspection of the vehicle. It is manned by three people, all of whom have multiple duties and the entire armament system is computerized... gadfry - am I glad that I am not in or intend to get into computers? This rapid deployment outfit had been selected to direct the qualification of some 2000 infantrymen over the Ex-

pert Infantry Badge field exercise. This achievement qualifies an individual soldier to wear the E.I.B. This is comparable to the Expert Infantryman Badge of our time without the laurel wreath around it - just the rifle superimposed on a blue bar. On arriving at the site of the exercise, I was taken into the briefing tent and interviewed again and given the final details of the exercise. The weather was also typical of much that was experienced during WWII, rain, with mud up to "you know where!"... When I finally struggled out of the TOW vehicle, everyone decided that I needed another form of transportation so I had a staff car with driver after that. Then we had chow in the field. It reminded me of "K" CO. chow as it was delicious... we were reputed to have the best mess in the 60th Infantry... at least Gen. Patton liked it. I was given today's equivalent of CRations (hope to bring it to the reunion). It is known as MRE (Meal ready to eat) and has an indefinite shelf life! There is also the milk that has indefinite shelf life.

It was a great experience and one that every "Old Reliable" who was a party to being "Hitler's Nemesis" should experience. It renewed my faith in the "wearers of the Octofoil" as I know that their disciplined minds will insure them of the same success we enjoyed should the need ever arise again, May God grant that this will not happen again as it did to so many of the finest young men of our generation.

The contemporary Ninth Division maintains our standards and would so like to host the Association Reunion so that the two best of two generations can meld into a cohesive unit to preserve for all time the beautiful and distinguished legacy that has always been the Ninth Infantry Division.

...About that staff car with driver... everytime it drove up to one of the instruction stations, a snappy salute was whipped out!... "Hell, I hadn't saluted anything in over 45 years!... I fumbled stumbled and ... have you ever tried to salute with a crutch?"

Dan, I hope that this is not too long but it was such an exciting experience from one of the old F--s who has nothing but spare parts; who is not undaunted even though the spare parts are not wanted...

I am enclosing some pictures of the trip and have some more in color slides if you can use them please do so and return when you are through.

Another thought, the Ninth Division at Ft. Lewis would probably bring some material to one of our meetings and explain the present day outfit. I would rather have our meeting in Ft. Lewis someday and have everyone see the outfit firsthand.

60th Inf.
ROBERT H. RUCKER
205 Greenway Drive,
Bryan, Texas 77801



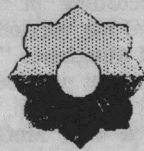
Some of these banks are having such a rough time of it that now, when you want to close out an account, you have to give them a toaster.

39th Inf & 26th FA
WILLIAM LEWIS
54 Hopewell Dr.
Struthers, Oh. 44471

I'm still in Ron Joy Nursing Home and hoping to hear from you. I look for the mail every day. I'm trying to get better. My wife still comes every day. She is always there when I want her. I want to go home but can't walk yet. Going on 5 years we are apart. Too long, but thank God I have her. Thank God for what you have BOYS and love your families. Take care of yourselves. Love and Blessings.

39th Inf Hqs.
FRANK TIERNEY
98 Medford Farms, RFD 4
Goffstown, N.H. 03045

I am writing about Paul Lindquist who passed on recently. I never knew him and only learned of his association with the 9th after reading his obit in my local paper. When I called his family for permission to send the notice to you, his wife told me that he had served with the 47th. She also knew about the Octofoil and said he had been receiving it in the past. Perhaps some members will remember him, as for myself, I am feeling great and will make another attempt to attend the Memorial service in Worcester. Best wishes to you and your family and to all members of the 9th.



60th Inf.
J. P. RYAN
Northville, N.Y. 12134

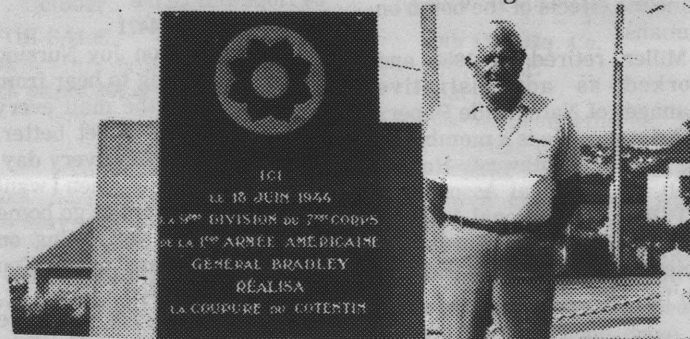
I did not make the reunion in June, as I went back to the forty-fifth anniversary of our landings in Normandy. I went with Keen Wilson, who commanded the 3rd Battalion when it crossed the Douve River on it's way to cut off the Cherbourg Peninsula. We stayed at the same hotel at Barneville Sun Men where we had set up a C.P. on 13 June 1944 after sealing off the German escape route from Cherbourg.

There we met Herbert Clark, who had been S-2 of the 3rd Battalion, who came over from his home in Ireland to make the tour of Normandy with us. We visited the Perriers St. Lo Road where some of the heaviest fighting for the Division took place, as well as the cemetery at Omaha Beach where so many of the men of the 9th are buried.

Enclosed is a picture of Col. Keen Wilson or "Slick," as we called him, in front of the memorial to the 9th Division outside of Barneville. The French had put flowers on it June 6, but they had become wilted by the time of our visit.

Saw several 9th Division men at the Saratoga meet. One, Lou Vivolo of the 9th M.P. Company spent three days with me at my farm.

My best to Walter.



John Ryan sends photo of Slick Wilson (Keen) taken last summer at the Monument to the Ninth in Barneville, France. Wilson commanded the 3rd Bn of the 60th Inf when the Ninth headed for Cherbourg in 1944. Story appears in Octofoil.

Mini Reunion

39th Infantry I Co.
CHARLES W. HOLSAPPLE
R 2 Box 413
Washington, IN 47501

PAUL CALLAHAN, SR.
435 Orchard West
Dallas, PA 18612

We are planning another reunion for August 7, 8, and 9, 1990 at Spring Mill State Park Inn in Mitchell, IN. There were eight couples met in August 1988 in Indiana. Anyone interested in this reunion contact one of the above names and information will be sent to you. So far we have eleven men contacted. In August 1988, we learned that George Perry had passed away in August 1981. Since our last reunion we have lost two more very dear buddies: Marshall Waller, on July 2, 1989 of Kinston, NC and Harold Etter on August 30, 1989 of Cincinnati, Ohio. These friends will be missed very much at our reunion in 1990. Hope their wives will be able to join us for a great visit together. Our prayers to our buddy, Ralph Elkins who has been sick, that he will be as good as new for the reunion, and also James Chaplin.

Sure enjoy the Octofoil and hoping to hear from several of you men out there. Take care and God Bless YOU!

47th At Co.
ROGER GARTLAND
255 Charles St.
Watertown, NY 13601

We surely enjoyed being with the old gang in July. The trip to West Point was most enjoyable. Nearly at each one of the reunions there are certain names which come up and after returning home, you wish that you had their addresses. Since arriving home from that notable get-together, we have been very busy. On July 17 Esther had surgery for a knee replacement. After 12 days in the hospital, she recuperated for 1 week at my sister's house before returning home. During that week she became more accustomed to her walker. On Aug. 7 she came home in an invalid van and on reaching home she was brought up the front steps and on to the porch and then inside the living room. She has seen the doctors and both say she is doing fine. Our next note to you previous to our departure for Florida will hopefully bear news that the little woman will be going about with a cane.

60th Inf. M Co.
2603 Brynwood Drive
New Port Richey, FL 34655

Spending the summer with my family in N.J. & PA. while at the V.A. clinic in Wilkes Barre, PA. I met a fellow buddy from A Co. 60th Harold Alles who lives in Edwardsville, PA.

I sent him a form to fill out to join the association he said he did belong to it way back.

Hoping to make the next reunion which I heard will be in Florida. We are leaving for Florida August 5th, my wife Ann is to have a hip operation when we get back there.

Ladies Corner

The reunion is over and the memories linger on for the wonderful reunion at the Pines. Renewing the friendships and making new ones. A special thanks to the New York chapter for all the diligent work and many hours put into the plan of organization. Also a special thanks to Emil Langer when special requests were made for the auxiliary.

I want to also thank all the officers for their wonderful help plus all the volunteer help that was given.

I want to thank Rosalie Painter who filled in the role of chaplain for Louise Etue whose husband Jim passed away on May 24th. He had served as the mail clerk member of F. Co. 60th Inf. So our prayers are with her and her son in Toledo, Ohio.

We also commend Bruce Seigel of the Pines for all the activities planned and the wonderful trip to West Point. Our new officers for the auxiliary are: President Ruth B. Lees - Pennsylvania. Vice President - Mary Brasington - Virginia Secretary - Connie Koneski - Pennsylvania. Treasurer - Eleanor Taubner - New Jersey. Chaplain - Ruth Jordan - West Virginia. Earl and I are sending our reservations in for Orlando for October 1990. Hope to see you all then.

60th Inf. F Co.
EARL LEES
1280 Morris Avenue
N. Huntingdon, PA 15642

47th Inf. E. Co.
CHARLES V. MARALDO
171 Bryson Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10302

I enjoy reading the Octofoil but I am surprised how few men from the original E. Co. Fort Bragg write in. I know there are quite a few that belong to the association.

Anyway I enjoy getting the paper, I am sorry I couldn't make the last two reunions because of a little trouble I've had with my eyes. Maybe I'll make it to Florida this time, just keeping one step ahead of father time.

Enclosed is a check for the Memorial Fund, in memory of George Kansala an early casualty in Africa.

60th Inf.
J. L. RAPPAZINI
24001 Sherman Street
Oak Park, MI 48237

To You and Marie for your unending efforts in regularly and constantly revitalizing the spirit of the Ninth through the publishing of the "The Octofoil." There is no doubt that it is instrumental in creating the turnout that shared in and enjoyed tremendously the gathering at "The Pines." Sincere congratulations and thanks.

The excitement and spirit of the reunion are still a part of each passing day - especially at the Cadet Cathedral.

The Nobel Nonth: What Pride! What elation! What joy to behold!

In the eyes and hearts of the Ninth so bold,

Trooping down the aisle in structure of peace.

They bore no arms, no enemy was sought-

An eternal calm by all could be felt,

As well as pride that will never melt.

The Ninth did its part in enhancing world peace.

Warmest Wishes

Co B 15th En6.
RICHARD C. MCGRATH
2856 West 85th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60652

It was a class reunion or to be exact it was a reunion with class. Thanks to our President (outgoing) Emil Langer and his helpers who reconnoitered the area to find such a worth while spot for such a large group. It was not only a great place for a reunion, but a vacation as well. It had so many things to do with golf, swimming, activities and entertainment it had something for everyone.

The meals were great, so tasty and so much that it reminded you of the army - just a small joke, very small. Seriously, the idea of a group being together for a week of meals helped to enhance the feeling of a great reunion. After the last meal the good byes with all the hugs, kisses, and tears proved we all enjoyed the family setting.

The memorial at West Point made one proud to be an American. Like the nation's Capital it is a place for all the kids to have a field trip. I couldn't get over the cleanliness of the place and how well kept and orderly the area is.

We were proud of Emil Langer in his sartorial splendor and his giving the memorial introduction. The church was inspiring and it was a notable place to honor all our deceased comrades.

B Company had a large group and we were especially happy, after all these years, to have two guys as first timers.

Ernie Miska one of the best top kicks an army ever had and Bob Apel a very popular member finally showed after 44 years. "Old Reliabies," that are always present and accounted for, were Paul Lisa, Allie Ferrante, Jerry Shea, Billy Davidson, Jim Mullen, Art Schmidt, Fred Damore, Tony Madonna, Pat DeColli, Fred Elmo, Ernie Neuhart, and our Co.O. Edward Kuklewicz. Sorry, one officer and we sure missed Rankin, Otts, Marsh, Moore, Rast, and Mandle - also Charlie Hoffman where were you?

All those buses (21 or so) going to West Point gave us a lesson on logistics. The people in charge did a hell of a job in feeding, transporting, and entertaining 900 people. Outside the scramble to register such a large group, the week was very enjoyable.

Show time at the Pines was an added touch that pleased this large group. Personally, the stars were Ernie Miska and his lovely Dorothy gliding around the dance floor.

How do people that age keep so young? In fact its amazing how youthful our gang looks, its the retaining of a sense of humor, I guess.

Thanks to Bill Kowalezk for looking me up at the reunion. I appreciate that and hope to return the kindness at a future reunion.

The banquet was a lot of laughs, but I sure missed the Dan Quinn scenario, it doesn't seem the same without Dan's high jinks.

If there are any future reunions like this one at the Pines count me in as there were so many good things to be said about the 44th annual reunion.

Our heartfelt thanks to the Committee for the terrific job done this past year. We wish Henry Santos the same, in advance, as we know he will like wise make us proud.

Enclosed find donation in memory of the 4581 K.I.A. comrades who gave their lives that we could enjoy all these memorable reunions. I read somewhere this quote, "The boundaries of a nations greatness are marked only by the graves of her soldiers and heroes."

In closing I salute the people who put out the Octofoil - the conduit, the cable, that keeps us together.

9th Med.
DR. R. M. HUMMEL
2411 Lommel Ln.
Marion IN 46952

Enclosed is check for dues for Mrs. Hummel and myself - no excuses for being late, as usual.

Still practicing medicine -have slowed down a bit, however. Best wishes to you, all of my friends.

47th Inf. Co's G & Serv.
A. J. KELLEY
5151 Mandarin Drive
Oceanside, CA 92056

Salubrious salutations from sunny southern California. Having lived here for 3 years and having missed the camaraderie and joie de vivre I experienced in Michigan where we had a chapter of the Ninth association, it occurred to me it would be a good idea to ascertain if there is a California chapter and if not why not? If there is no such chapter, perhaps we could communicate on an informal basis. If anyone else thinks this is a viable concept, please feel free to call or write.

P.S. Hats off to the wonderful job that is done editing and publishing the Octofoil, I eagerly look forward to each issue.

CANNON Co. 39th Inf.
CALVIN C. DANIELS
47354 Burton Drive
Utica, MI

Thought I'd write and let everyone know we are all OK. We moved now as you can see and are still trying to find little things like address books and so forth.

I think that our reunion at the Pines was very well organized, and I enjoyed it very much. Dan and Marie and New York chapter are to be thankful for such a nice time we all had. We hope our next one in Florida will be as good. Will be looking to see everyone in 1990.

84th F.A. B Btry.
SAMUEL D. ROBINSON
400 Paradise Road Madrid 1D
Swampscott, MA 01907

Hope "you all" had a nice summer!! The trip to West Point was thrilling - ever the wonder were delighted to have that "once in a lifetime" visit to W.P.

Enclosed is a copy I received from the brother of Jim Barr. I have spoken to Jim many times and was responsible in getting into the 9th Div. Association. His brother speaks to me often, as he was the 45th "in Italy."

If any one of the readers in (60th) know him they could drop a line to Mrs. Barr at Sunset Road, Lynn, Mass 01902.

Belle and I are heading to the Nevelle (near the Pines) next weekend. Hope my golf is better than the last time I played with you. All my best.

Div. Hqs.
VICTOR D. DAUMIT
901 Breakwater Drive
Annapolis, MD 21403

That certainly was one hellava convention! I guess resorts are about the best way to go, combining a vacation and still seeing the guys. I don't see any red ink on my Octofoils but am sending dues anyway! Hi to everyone!

M Co. 47th Inf.
RED PHILLIPS
14002 Hemlock Dr.
Penn Valley, CA 95946

M COMPANY CHRONICLER
I had a letter recently from "Red" Crail of Pittsburgh, PA and one of F Company, 39th Infantry. He was interested in M's numbers - "How did we do it." I replied, essentially, "One Joe at a time," and nothing illustrates this better than events of the past few weeks.

Remember, in the last Octofoil I reported a lead picked up at The Pines Reunion that took us to Angelo M. Parento. He, in turn, wrote that he was in touch with a Ted France (7332 Granby Dr., Hudson, OH, 44236) who, in turn, knew of John B. Evans, Jr. (4533 Rivoli Dr., Macon, GA 31210; (912) 477-6305; Norman Stollman (29 Richard Pl., Trumbull, CT, 06611; (203) 268-9518) and Emil Gnal (4572 W. 192nd St., Cleveland, OH, 44135; (216) 433-1707. All of these fellows were amazed to learn of the new "M." They were once machine-gunners of the 1st Platoon.

And that's not all! Joe Kscenaitis turned out to be a gold mine. Through him I've heard from Julian Kadis (4120 Inverrary Dr., Lauderhill, FL, 33319; (305) 485-1793; Morris Goldblatt, Brittany C-120, Delray Beach, FL 33446; (407) 499-7284; Robert S. Cunningham, 131 Anita Ave., Grover City, CA, 93433; (805) 489-8364 and Morris Newman, 690 Ft. Washington Ave., New York, NY, 10040; (212) 568-2753. Kadis was a mortarman who was part of Rosie's FO party that first morning at El Guettar. He got out of that but was clobbered a few days later. Goldblatt was a jeep driver who made the Safi trip but was captured when the Germans counter-attacked us near St. Lo. Cunningham was another from Fort Bragg days and in the 2nd Platoon; he was WIA in Normandy. Newman was a 1st Platoon machine-gunner who joined us as a replacement in the hedgerows. There are more to come thanks to Joe Kscenaitis excellent connections. The new "M" is 103 strong now.

I'm sorry to report that the total no longer includes Gery Wheelock. He died last April in Depere, WI, of complications following a bout with cancer. Gerry was platoon sergeant of the 2st HMG when I joined it at Fort Bragg. He was a big help and a crackerjack leader until the pressures at El Guettar became too much for him. The event was an important lesson for me that served long after.

Angelo Parento sent photos in which several lost M-ers were identified, including Beecher T. Jones of Henry, VA. I had Dewey Siddons check him out and it turns out he's been gone for eleven years. Another "goner" since '78 was Herbert H. Fisher of Charlotte, NC, but I did turn up, with help from Ma Bell, Jessie L. Fisher, Rt. 2, Box 240, New Castle, VA, 24127; (203) 864-5982. I'm looking forward to hearing from Jessie what he's been up to for the past 45 years.

Bill Morkill's written that he's feeling chipper now and restoring a boat to sail on Lake Washington (Seattle). Howard Gaertner sent me a clipping from the Milwaukee Journal which had printed his warm impressions from a Reunion Memorial Service. Stan Petlak sent along a book on the Tunisian battles which had been making the rounds of the Massachusetts gang. There are still many unanswered ques-

tions about those desert days. John DeSepio sent me Xerox copies of the M Company pages of a 1941 regimental "keepsake" book. Many of the current gang are there, downy-cheeked, trying to look tough or silly or serious. John should bring the original along to the next Reunion at Orlando, FL.

Willard Norris sent photos from his recent visit to Fort Lewis, WA where he turned over all of his WWII souvenirs to the 47th Infantry Museum. Norris had a chance to visit with the troops and said he was "really very favorably impressed by the morale and high state of training of these young soldiers." (Remember when they used to refer to us in those terms?) Bill Kowalczyk's given me another spelling lesson - "Octofoil." I've got it, Bill! Joe Kaminski's been doing some checking for lost M-ers in Toledo, (by the way, Joe's phone no. is (419) 867-0310) and Lysle Kitchen keeps proving to me that his is possibly the sharpest memory of us all, better than mine for sure.

Ralph H. Whitehead of Dundee, NY, and once of K Company, 47th Infantry, dropped a line and swell photos of a trip he had taken back to Schevenhutte and the Hurtgen Forest. Says everything is in tip top shape, but there's not a trace remaining of Frenzenburg Castle. Of course, the 2nd Bn. and K Co., with a little help from their heavy weapons friends, didn't leave a heck of a lot to disappear.

60th Inf. B Co.
ROBERT BOGERT
18843 Wharf Dr.
Hudson FL 34667

First I want to apologize for being A.W.O.L. all these years. I don't know how many times I tried to contact someone so I could join the Assn. I finally got lucky, I picked up a V.F.W. magazine in the local barber shop and seen in the Reunion column that the 9th was having a Reunion, so I wrote a letter to Dan Quinn and he was kind enough to send me a complimentary copy of the Octofoil, (thanks Dan). I read it from cover to cover and it sure brought back memories. Enclosed you'll find my application and dues for 3 yrs. and the balance to go to the Memorial Fund. Looking forward to my next issue of the Octofoil.

39th Inf. G Co.
WILLIAM CANARY
5 Eagle Dr.
Whiting, N.J. 08759

Enclosed is a picture of eight former Co. "G" men who were at the 44th reunion held at the Pines in Fallsburg, N.Y. What a crew!

We all had a terrific time and the N.Y. Chapter deserves a hardy round of applause for a job well done. Also you Dan.

The guidon shown in the picture is the original one and all of us ex-"G" men are proud of it.

From all of us "G" men we wish for all the 9th Infantry men, a happy, healthy Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year in 1990. Until we meet again, wherever that may be, remember the 9th.

P.S. Marion and I went to Charles Fox's wake and met his wife and son who were pleased that we attended. I brought my copy of the plaque but he had already received one, and it was on the casket. Glad I could help you out.

7th Mini Reunion
Co M 60th Inf

On September 14, 15 and 16th our 7th Mini Reunion was held at Best Western Park Mammoth Resort at Park City, Kentucky. We had good attendance, 30 men and most of their ladies. Our committee this year were Marge and Bob Bovanizer, Walter Frasure and Mary Ann Hall, CT and Margaret Gilbert and Joe and Pat Gargie. It is a beautiful resort on a mountain top, indoor swimming pool, 18 hold golf course, game room and miniature train that ran around the mountain. We didn't have such nice weather. The golf tournament for Fri and Sat was cancelled because of wet grounds. The train couldn't run on the wet track but the comradeship more than made up for these little inconveniences. Therefore more time was spent in the hospitality room where we partied and the food was tremendous. We planned one excursion to Cave City to a Black Onyx Cave and almost got drowned getting in and out of the cave in the pouring rain. The ladies shopped here and there. All in all a good time was had by all. Would you believe I won the quilt. Sounds like a set up, doesn't it? But really was on the up and up. Marge is busy doing over the spare room, so she can use it as a wall hanging. We are starting to plan another quilt. More on that in the Christmas letter. For all of you who had chances on this year's quilt and did not attend the reunion we will send a picture at Christmas. The speaker for the evening at our banquet was Will Thornton who spoke on the writing of The GI's War by Hoyt, a book he had a great deal to do with. The author used his diary and notes for large parts of the book. This book at the present time, being circulated among the men of M Co. Some have purchased there own copy.

We have received word of several Co Men on the sick list. Bill Zimmerman from Maryland, George Gilmore from California, Harold Sell from Virginia, Ed Tyzka from Wisconsin. Lila Stansell from Florida is recovering nicely now.

We have two new men to add to our Roster, John Monroe, RR #1 Bethany, ILL 61914 and Myron R. Kalish, 235 Cline Ave., Mansfield, Ohio 44907. This brings our Roster count to 94.

Reunion for 1990 will be in September in the Pidgeon Forge, Tenn. area. Floyd and Melba Hutcherson will help us with this reunion. More on this in the Christmas letter too.

Robert R. Bovanizer, Sect.
60th Inf Co M
14 Sabre Park
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

SEEKING

I noticed your name and organization reunion date in the Legion Magazine. I am trying to locate a friend of mine who was with the 9th, one Stanley P. Gull. He was wounded somewhere in France near St. Lo. Your outfit and my outfit, the 3rd AD worked together for quite a while. Gen. Collins, V11 Corps CG, said that the 9th, 1st Infantry Div and 3rd AD was his first team. If you have any information as to the whereabouts of Stanley Gull, I would appreciate it very much. I believe he was a squad leader. Thank you for your courtesy.

Spearheadingly yours,
Leo J. Anthony
1257 Argonne Dr
Natrona Hts., Pa. 15065

MAIL CALL

60th Inf. Co. M
Later Hdq. Co. 3rd Bn.
ERNEST M. CHANDLER
1711 Ave "K"
Sterling, IL 61081

This is how it happened I got to the Ninth Inf. Div., or maybe I should address this to whom it may concern.

Harold Jiggs Sell, and I were employed in the furniture making industry in Rockford, IL when Hitler was doing all of his lying about what a great guy he was. While attacking countries he knew he could take over.

My memory being what it is, I may have a date wrong if so I don't mind being corrected. I believe it was 1941 when Mr. Sell and I flipped a coin, as to where we would go to enlist in the service. Reading the newspapers, we knew it was only a matter of time until we would be in the war. Hitler had taken most of Europe.

Harold won the toss so we went to Fort Bragg, NC. We went into Chicago, and were sworn in, got the information shown the pictures of Brick barracks and were off on the wicker seated train for Carolina. The brick barracks were pyramidal tents, and we had to put up our own shower. We even had to put up our own tents. One thing we did have that was useless was a sybily stove. That wouldn't keep anyone warm in a pup tent let alone a pyramidal tent.

Michael Chicvarra was also on that train, and he loaned me his book a G.I.s War, and at that time 20 mile hikes were done with jelly sandwiches. Later on "C" rations were terrific, and then "K" rations with Wings, and Chelsea cigarettes. I wonder who the makers of those class Z cigarettes were. I imagine they made a pretty good buck.

Fayetteville was quite a town then, and my wife and I went back this spring and now it is all special services and airborne. Then they had the Town Pump Tavern, which they could only serve beer. It had three bars one inside of the other. The parachute troops and the infantry were fighting all the time. They used tear gas on the streets one night.

My wife rode down to Fayetteville, and we were married in the Methodist Church. That was quite a trip for a young midwestern gal who was to become my wife.

I don't know who was with me the night we went to Bonnie Doon, and came back to the Fort after it closed. All of us G.I.s decided the last guy on the bus would pay so as we got on the bus after spending all of our money on beer we told the driver the last G.I. would pay. Well the last G.I. did pay, buy only his fare. The bus driver stopped at the gate and the bus loaded with uniformed soldiers and called the M.P.s. The M.P.s asked us individually if we paid and of course we had to say "yes." They finally gave up and took us on into the post.

If any one remembers that trip, I would like to hear from them.

At twenty one bucks a month there wasn't much money to throw away. I remember I smoked Bull Durham all the way up to payday, then really splurged with a pack of Little Johnny's Call for Phillip Morris.

Well I have rambled on, and you asked for writers so I thought I would try to bring back some memories.

26th FA Bn.
GORDON J. RYDER
83 Glenmount Ave.
Columbus, Ohio 43214

I joined the 26th F.A. Bn. a few days after they arrived at Barton Stacy, England. I was first assigned as ass't battalion communications officer. It was my pleasure to work with the finest radio and wire crews in the Division, at least that was my opinion of them. Every one of them could read a map in the light at the headquarters tent, then go out and lay wire on the darkest night without a flashlight, get the wire line where it should be and never get lost.

In October, I was promoted and assigned as Bn. S-2 and at Camp Elsenborn, I became Bn. Liaison Officer for the 1st Bn. 39th Inf., after Capt. Jim Flowers was KIA. Jim received his ROTC commission at OSU a year ahead of me. After VE-Day, as you remember, all the low point men and officers were rotated home to go to the Pacific. A few days later the high pointers were sent home, except Col. Johnson and one officer for each battery. That left four of us with over 150 points to stay with the battalion until replacements with under 60 points arrived to take our place. So I was in occupation until October. Our battalion was assigned southeastern Bavaria, headquartered at Muhldorf east of Munich.

On the civilian side, I spent my entire career with The Ohio State University. I retired in 1980. This included time of employment while an undergraduate student, before receiving my ROTC commission in 1942. After military service I was a professor in Agronomy in the College of Agriculture. For several years I did consulting work, nationally and internationally, in corn production.

It was a pleasure to spend a day with Bob Fleckenstein (26th F.A.) while in Florida two years ago. I have visited Col. Evert Strong (BG ret'd) in Okla. City nearly every year since 1946, while my wife visited her family.

Write or if in Columbus give me a call.

39 INF I Co.
ED KONESKI
303 Ropeksford Rd.
Ropeksford, Pa. 19468

Here you are another reunion taped. My daughter-in-law helped to tape this years' reunion. We really enjoyed the Pines.

It was great that everything was right there at the Pines. Connie brought two paintings. Matthew played golf twice a day with his Dad and me. Rachel played once but her interests were more like swimming.

The Banquet was very good and the speaker a real surprise. I must say the Pines did a nice job feeding all these people at one sitting for every meal.

We both lost weight not from the lack of food but the hike to the dining room. I went down two notches.

The New York Chapter should be commended for a great reunion.

P.S. We haven't attended a bad one yet.

When was the last time you wrote a letter to our Mail Call Column? Just a postal card would denote your interest and let some buddy know where you are. You like to read what other members send in . . . why not do your own part and write a few lines now and then for their enjoyment.

"C" Co. 9th Med. Bn
RALPH PALERMO
223 Barbera Dr.
McKees Rocks, Pa. 15136

It was great seeing you and all my friends at the Pines. The reunions have been getting better and better. The New York Chapter really outdid themselves this time. This was a reunion that I will never forget. Frank Fazio, Vince Guglielmino and Emil Langer did a terrific job, and I thank them. The Memorial Service, held at the U.S. Military Academy, Cadet Chapel, West Point, N.Y., was very touching, and many of us had tears in our eyes and also a heavy heart. This trip was well planned to accommodate 21 bus loads of the 9th Division Personnel and their wives and guests. The tour was also excellent and the hostesses did a good job.

The meals, entertainment, cocktail parties, and the shows were also good. I could go on and brag much more but as the programs says "A Cruise on Land in the Catskills" spells it all.

Keep up all the good work you are doing and God bless all in the 9th Div. Assn. both alive and deceased.

47th Inf. L Co.
CLARENCE F. RAY
Rt #1 Box 77
Penn Run, PA 15765

When we left home for the reunion at the Pines, I thought perhaps I would be the only one there from Co L. I had called Walter Kimmerle earlier and he said he and Ruth would not be able to make it. But to my great joy and surprise, there were seven of us old soldiers there from L Co.

Oreste Russo — Wounded at Olenberg, the same day I was hit, Mar. 9, 1945. Oreste was L Co. medic.

Anthony DeRobertis — Co. runner

John Caghey — weapons platoon

Alfred Myers, William Fleming.

Peter Zimmer — captured in North Africa. Either Myers or Flemming was captured at Olenberg Mar. 9th. I can't remember which one.

My wife Pearl, and I had a great time at the reunion. We especially enjoyed the trip to West Point. The facilities at the Pines left something to be desired, but meeting with old L Co. buddies made up for the short comings. All in all, it was a very enjoyable week. I sent in my reservation for Orlando quite some time ago. Got my cancelled check back, but no confirmation on the reservation. What's the matter Henry?

All you L Co. men out there, plan to attend the 45th Reunion at Orlando in 1990. Get those reservations in. We had seven at the Pines. Let's double or even triple that figure next year. Where are you? Willard Clark-Martin, my assistant squad leader, when I was hit the first time Aug. 4, 45. Scott, one of my squad leaders at Remagen. Let me hear from you, or anyone else who remembers me. My phone number is 412-463-8157.

You are doing a superb job with the Octofoil and the Association. A thousand thanks.

I am looking forward to the completion of the directory by Dave Heller. Get those names, units and addresses into him, pronto.

Wishing everyone a happy holiday season.

Hqrs. 9th Medical Battalion
S. "GUS" AGOSTINELLI
412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N.J. 07087
Rochester, NY 14612

Just a note to express appreciation and thanks to the New York Chapter for a job well done on the 44th reunion at the Pines.

It was one of the best we have attended.

The following former members of the 9th Medical Battalion attended and thoroughly enjoyed themselves:

From Headquarters: A.S. Kaufman Battalion Commander, S. "Gus" Agostinelli and Sewell Carson.

From "C" Co. Aldor Cook, Alex Balough, Stanley Busta, Frank Kowalik, John Lewis, Ralph Palermo and John Robinson. Mrs. Bruce Johnstone also attended as did our wives and guests.

To the other former members of our Battalion, you missed a wonderful reunion. Plan to join us in the future.

47th Inf H Co.
CLARENCE HOLMAN
2106 Argyle
Hamburg, Iowa 51640

The Plaque arrived today. Thanks for the Plaque. Now to let our son know and it can be used if I should make that journey before he is taken from us.

So far we both are doing fine. Also look forward to the coming of the Octofoil each time.

I went into the Service from Chicago, Illinois. But no house so we returned to the town where we met and said Our I Do's. To the many friends we have known before our marriage. 1990 December 7th hopefully we will get to celebrate Our Golden Anniversary.

Our neighbor and a Navy Vet. and his wife would have celebrated their Golden. This month. It hurts when classmates are taken.

Best of luck to the 9th and the members.

60th Inf E Co
JAMES POPECKI
1228 Shenk Ave.
Erie, Pa. 16505

I am sorry if I am late in sending in my dues money, but I have been in and out of the Veterans Hospital.

I got together with Lt. Colonel Matt Urban when he came to the Erie VAMC for a special Ceremony honoring him and was very surprised when he told me that he also was in my old outfit, "Easy Co. 60th. Infantry 9th Division.

You will probably remember him as having to wait over thirty years before he received the Congressional Medal of Honor, and he was also the most decorated Veteran surpassing Audi Murphy.

Keep up the good work, and may the good Lord bless each and every-one of you, and keep you in his care.

47th Inf., H Co.
W.M. LYNCH
415 E. Main St.
Richardson, TX 75081

When this goes to press, my wife and I will be in Europe again, visiting some of the combat area of WW II and the 9th Infantry.

I am seeking correspondence with anyone who may have a history of the 60th Infantry. It would give me some historical data I greatly need.

I enjoy reading from the pen of comrades in arms through the Octofoil. I found Frank Machek, an old foxhole buddy through the Octofoil. What a pleasure to talk with him via phone.

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60th Inf. G. Co.
RONALD M. A. HIRST
Mathildenstrasse 4
D-6200 Wiesbaden

Couple of items of interest for the membership. The first is that David Gillespie, formerly of K Company, 47th is alive and well and can be contacted by any and all at 2413 Glenwood Avenue, Raleigh, N.C. 27608. Incidentally he has NOT written his book but felt my correspondence might inspire him to do so . . . this to all of you 47th guys: Write him and INSPIRE him!

The next item is that another 47th Regiment man has been contacted, he's now the US Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany: Vernon A. ("Dick") Walters. A courtesy copy of The Octofoil might encourage him to establish membership. Address: The Honorable Vernon A. Walters, The Ambassador of the United States, Embassy of the United States of America, Deichmanns Aue 29, D-5300 BONN 2, Federal Republic of Germany. Who knows, there might be another who remembers his stepping ashore with the Regiment in North Africa.

Third item is the enclosed photograph of the monument recently dedicated on the east bank of the Rhine River at ERPEL, the eastern terminus of the former Ludendorff railroad bridge, for which so many of us did an Olympic trial back then. The photograph shows the twin towers of the western terminus of the bridge behind it. The large lettering on the bronze plaque, a quote from the former German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, reads: (translated) Peace with out Freedom is no Peace. Most appropriate when one reflects on the incessant call and cry today of peace throughout the world; but in too many nations that does not mean FREEDOM. At the moment the twin towers on the east bank are being sanitized and are now open to visitors. These are THE towers which meant so much to so many of us. It was their seizure that insured the security of the crossing, thanks to the 9th Armored Division guys. On recent date I visited the towers and had a conducted tour from the local mayor. The views from the various openings offer reflections which would be of immortalized memory for many a 9th Infantry-Division-man.

That is all for today, Dan. Soon, I'll be visiting the sites again, mainly to take photographs of the newly placed 78th Infantry Division plaque. I wonder when we, the second outfit to cross, will be dedicating ours for eternity. Give my warmest to your lovely bride.